

**Minutes**  
**King County Rural Forest Commission**  
**June 13, 2001**  
**Mercerview Community Center**

*Commissioners present:* Jean Bouffard, Gordon Bradley, Steve Ketz, Bill Kombol, Ken Konigsmark, Fred McCarty, Doug McClelland, Andrew Schwarz

*Commissioners absent:* Rudy Edwards, Ken Konigsmark

*Exofficio members:* Lori Grant, Steve Boyce

*Staff:* Kathy Creahan, Bill Loeber, Kristi McClelland, Benj Wadsworth

*Guests:* Bruce Bare, Dennis Clark, Dennis Dart, John Gorman, Louis Kahn, Maxine Keesling, Dave Kimmet, John Lombard, Matt Mattson, Gary McCausland, Scott Snyder, Dave Warren, Bill Woods

Doug McClelland called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

**Minutes Approval**

- Motion 1-601: “To adopt the April and May meeting minutes as written.” Moved, seconded and approved.

**Chair Report**

Doug announced that Nancy Hansen was unable to attend the meeting. He introduced several nominated new members who are awaiting confirmation by the Council: Dave Warren from Pacific Forest Trust; Louis Kahn, a small landowner in North Bend; and Matt Mattson, the director of environment and natural resources for the Snoqualmie Tribe.

Maxine Keesling expressed some concerns about the draft ordinance revising the Transfer of Development Credits program. She is concerned that the ordinance gives complete dominion to the Executive and that the conservation easement could preclude forestry. She is also concerned that landowners might not be compensated fairly for the development rights on their land. She submitted written comments for the record. Kathy Creahan suggested that the Commission should review the ordinance at their next meeting. All agreed that was a good idea. Lori Grant commented that the terms of a conservation easement vary with each

transaction, as does the sale price of development credits. Lou Kahn commented that he had his land certified as a sending site but has not had any interest from developers to purchase the rights.

Doug addressed the changes to the Commission's Administrative Procedures regarding the issue of conflict of interest.

Motion 2-601: "To adopt the revised Rural Forest Commission Administrative Procedures." Moved, seconded and passed by a vote of 7-1. In favor: Jean Bouffard, Gordon Bradley, Steve Ketz, Bill Kombol, Ken Konigsmark, Doug McClelland, Andrew Schwarz. Opposed: Fred McCarty

Doug suggested that the Commission rescind the motion from the May meeting that would refer a previous conflict of interest debate to the Ombudsman's office.

Motion 3-601: To rescind motion 3-401 and not refer the conflict of interest issue to the Ombudsman's office. Moved, seconded and approved.

Doug commented that he feels that the Commission has learned a great deal over the past two years. He also feels that there were occurrences that compromised the effectiveness of the Commission and that it is imperative that the Commissioners follow the Administrative Procedures in the future.

Doug announced that he is going to be gone from June 15 until the end of August. During that time he can be reached on a cell phone at 425-241-7823 or via e-mail at mccnw@bigfoot.com. He suggested that the Commission might want to cancel one of the meetings in the summer due to conflicts. The Commission decided to cancel the August meeting and move the July meeting to Wed, July 18 and combine it with a field trip in the southern part of the county. The Commission also decided to change the future meeting date to the third Wed of each month.

### **Staff Report**

Benj mentioned the opportunity to do some flights to look at forestry issues from the air. He asked for suggestions about decision-makers who would benefit from such an experience.

Benj asked if he should look into establishing a proxy system whereby Commissioners could send a substitute who would be considered a voting member. There was concern that such a

system might not be allowed under the ordinance creating the Commission. Benj will check out the feasibility of establishing such a system.

The new appointees are (hopefully) close to being appointed. Benj is still looking for a replacement for Matt Freeman-Gleason to represent the consumer end of the forest products industry. He welcomes suggestions.

Benj distributed the letter to the Executive and Council about the reorganization of KCDNR and Parks. He also distributed the revised draft of the Forest Policy. The final policy will be an adopted document that guides the management of County owned forestland and the strategies that the County employs in trying to conserve privately-owned forestland.

Doug commented that he and Ken had met with Nancy Hansen to discuss some of the points outlined in the letter about reorganization. Benj commented that Nancy would welcome a list of questions pertaining to the reorganization.

### **Forest Certification**

Doug introduced the four-speaker panel focusing on forest certification: Dr. Bruce Bare, acting dean at the University of Washington, College of Forest Resources; John Gorman from Simpson Investment Co.; Larry Nussbaum from Northwest Natural Resources Group; and Gary McCausland from Fort Lewis.

Notes from each of the presentations are attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

**Next meeting** - Wednesday, July 18 at 10:00 at Gracie Hanson Park in Ravensdale.